A Discourse vpon the declaration, published by the Lord *de la Noue*.

Discours sur la declaration faicte par le Sieur de la *Noue*.

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The diuers conditions and qualities of such persons as enter into the tragedie whereuppon the Lorde *de la Noue* was constrained to publish this defence, doth yeeld vs a bare argument whereby to finde out sundrie such effects as may teach vs to guide our lines with more discretion, and the same to refer principally to the honor of God (which is the first degree of pietie) and next to the preseruation of the countrie (which is the second) and may make vs better aduised, thereby to eschew the falling into those errors that sundrie commit, as well in the one as in the other.

The graue, couragious, and sentencious speeches of the L. de la Noue, doth shewe that as the marriners haue still their eies vpon the north starre, or the needle that pointeth to the same, so the obligation wherein we stande bound to men of whatsoeuer calling, ought not so to hinder vs, but that in all

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LA qualité & condition differente des personnes qui entrent en la tragedie sur laquelle le Sieur de la *Noue* a esté contrainct de publier ceste Defense, nous donne vn beau subiect pour recognoistre diuers effects, qui nous appendront à conduire nostre vie plus sagement, & la rapporter principalement à l'honneur de Dieu, (qui est le premier degré de pieté) & au salut du païs (qui est le second) & nous rendra aduiséz pour ne tomber és defaults que plusieurs font en l'vn & en l'aultre poinct.

Le graue, magnanime, & sententieux parler du Sieur de la *Noue*, monstre, comme les mariniers ont touſiours l'œil sur l'estoille du Nort, ou sur l'eguille qui la marque ; ausi que l'obligation qu'on a aux hommes de quelque qualité qu'elle soit, ne nous doibt empescher,

qu'en toutes nos actions nous ne iettions l'œil ſur la ſaincte volonté de Dieu, & ſuiuant icelle, toutes les fois que noſtre vocation nous y appelle: que nous n'entrions alaigremẽt à la defenſe de la iuſtice, encores q̃ pour icelle nous deuſſiõs ſouffrir perſecutiõ. Et puis que nos bienfaicts ne peuuent monter iuſques à Dieu, il reſte q̃ nous les employons vers ceux qui nous ſont principallement recõmandez par ſa majeſté, & les plus aymez de ſa bõté. L'egliſe eſt la premiere, pour laquelle il a liurece qui luy eſtoit le plus cher, ceſt ſon Filz. Et cõbien que touts les membres d'icelle ſont en ſa garde cõme la prunelle de l'œil: toutesfois la Veufue & l'orphelin tiennẽt le premier lieu, & le plus ſacré degré entre ceulx qui luy plaiſt nous recõmãder. Puiſ-donc, que pour la iuſte defenſe de l'Egliſe de Dieu, & d'vn pauure Orphelin, le Sieur de la *Noue* s'eſt voué, & conſacré, non point legierement, mais ayour actions we caſt our eye vpon the holy will of God and according to the ſame, ſo often as our vocation calleth vs, we enter cheerefully into the defence of Juſtice, though for the ſame, we ſhould ſuffer perſecution. Sith alſo that our benefites can not clymbe to God himſelfe, it reſteth that we employ them vppon thoſe who by his maieſtie are principally commended & in greateſt fauour with his bountie: of theſe, the firſt is the Church, for the which hee hath giuen that which he helde moſt deereſt vnto him, viz. his ſonne. And albeit all the members thereof doo reſt in his protection as the apple of his eye, yet the widowe and Orphane haue the preheminence and moſt ſacred degree among all thoſe whome it hath pleaſed him to commende vnto vs.

In as much therefore, as for the defence of Gods Church, and a poore Orphane, the Lorde de la Noue, hath vowed and conſecrated himſelfe, not raſhly, but vppon mature exexami-

amination of this matter, and after hath couragiously vndertaken the same, as making in respect of his duetie no account of the daungers that might ensue, I will not saye that he hath purchased great commendations with men (for he seeketh none) but hath left a goodly example to all those to whom God hath imparted meanes of helpe in goods, authoritie, knowledge, or valiantnes to releeue Gods iustice oppressed by Tyrantes, and to bestowe what so euer their power, for his cause, to whom they must giue account, and by whome (if they abuse his giftes) they shall eyther without remission be cast into vtter darkenesse, or else receiue his fauourable sentence, to enter into the ioyes of the Lorde. And besides, by this example GOD sheweth how hee bringeth into practise as it were perforce, the valour that he hath imparted to men, when themselues vpon terrene considerations do endeuour to blemish & keepe it buried. For as saieth a certayne Poet,

ant meuremẽt examiné ceſt affaire, & en apres, l'auoir entrepriſe courageuſement, ne faiſant (au pris de ſon deuoir) aulcune eſtime des dangers qui en peuuent aduenir: Ie ne diray point, c'eſt acquis vne grande louange deuant les hõmes (car il ne la cerche point) mais a laiſſé vn bel exemple à tous ceulx auxquels dieu a departi des moyẽs pour aider es biens, en authorité, en ſçauoir, en vaillantiſe, de ſecourrir la iuſtice de Dieu preſſée par les tyrans, de rapporter tout ce qu'ils ont de puiſſance à celuy auquel il fault qu'ils en rẽdẽt cõpte, & par lequel (s'ils en abuſent) ſerõt iettez és tenebres exterieures, ſãs remiſſiõ, ou biẽ ils receurõt ſa gratieuſe ſẽtẽce, pour entrer en la ioye du Seigneur. D'auãtage, en ceſt exemple dieu mõſtre cõmẽt il tire en practique, ainſi q̃ par force, la valeur qu'il a donnee aux hõmes, quãd pour des raiſos de terre ils là veulẽt obſcurcir & tenir enſeuelie, d'aultãt (cõme dict vn Poët.

Que la vertu cachée ne differe guerez de faineantiſe.

Ceulx d'aultre part qui ont tiré violentement de ce Gẽtil-homme, & apres vne priſõ ſi cruelle, des promeſſes ſi rudes & ſi mal-gratieuſes, monſtrent le naturel des tyrans: leſquels ſe monſtrẽt aſſez effroiables, felõs, & terribles, quand ils penſent auoir le temps propre à iouër le perſonnage cruel du Lyon: Mais quand auec vn ſens raſsis, & iugement aſſeuré, on vient à les conſiderer de plus preſt, on trouue, qu'entre touts les animaux, le Tyran eſt la plus craintifue & puſillãime beſte, & que cruauté & laſcheté de courage, ſont deux qualitez inſeparables du tyran: Car comment peuuẽt ils autrement interpreter ces cruelles promeſſes tirées par force de la bouche d'un ſimple Cheualier? Pourtant ne pouuons nous aſſez hauloner le cœur Magnanime du noble & gentil Prince de *Galles*, lequel ayãt eu rapport que le vaillant

vertue hidden diffreth litle from cowardlineſſe.

On the other ſide, they which wreſted from this gentleman, and that after ſo cruell impriſonment, ſo harde and vntowarde promiſes, do ſhewe the nature of Tyrants: who declare themſelues terrible, fellonious, and miſchieuous, ſo ſoone as they weene to haue gotten time conuenient to play the part of the cruell Lion: but when with ſtayed ſenſe, and aſſured iudgment we come more neerely to conſider of them, we ſhall finde, that among all creatures the tyrant is the moſt timorous and faint-hearted beaſt, alſo that crueltye and cowardlineſſe are two inſeparable qualities of a Tyrant. For what other interpretation can they make of theſe cruell promiſes wreſted out of the mouth of a ſimple knight? And therefore wee cannot ſufficiently extoll the valiaunt courage of that noble and worthy Prince of Wales, who hearing that the valiant Bertrand du Gueſclein, as then but

a ſim-

a simple gentleman of Britan, (as also is the Lorde De la Noue) reported that the sayde Prince feared him, having agreed vppon his ransome, did immediatly set him at libertie vpon his faith.

The Prince of Parma affecteth the name of a victorious, glorious, inuincible and mighty captaine, with other the ambitious & proud titles which the flattering Italians doo giue him: and not content with such titles seeketh ouer foolishly and with manifest and shamelesse ambition, the name of Alexander the Great, and therefore beareth in his deuise Sa-Tyros the deuise of great Alexander. Besides, after the Romish, that is the Popish manner, christening the Galeon that he caused to be built at Antwerp, not by ỹ countrie workmen, for they are but spitchipe, but by our goldē and beluet masters come out of Italy, he was not content to haue it called by his own name which is Alexander, but named it as Godfather to that Bucephall, Great Alexander: and yet

Bertrant du Gueſclein, pour lors encores ſimple Gētilhomme *Bretō* (comme auſſi eſt le Sieur de la *Noue*) diſoit qu'il le craignoit, le miſt incontinēt en liberté ſur ſa foy, ayāt accordé de ſa rāçō.

Le Prince de *Parme*, affecte le nom de victorieux, glorieux, inuincible, & grād Capitaine, & aultres tiltres ambitieux & ſuperbes, que les flatteurs Italiens luy attribuent: & ne ſe contentant de tels tiltres, cerche par trop ſottemēt, & d'une ambition deſcouuerte & effrontée, le nom de *grand Alexandre*, pourtāt porte il en ſa deuiſe, *Sa. Tyros*, deuiſe du *grand Alexandre*: & baptiſāt à la mode Romaine, c'eſt à dire Papale, le gallion qu'il a faict baſtir en Anuers, nō pas des ouuriers du païs, car ce ne ſont que forſātes, mais par des Meſſers venus d'Italie, dorez & velouttez; il ne ſe contēta de le faire appeller de ſon nom, qui eſt *Alexandre*, mais le nomma, cōme parrain de ce Bucephale, le *grād Alexandre*: veu qu'at-

qu'attẽdu les beaux effects, & le parrain & le filleul eſtoiẽt deux vrais Sãdrekeuken. Mais ie demãderois volontiers à ce ſot & ſuperbe tout enſemble, ſi *Alexandre le Grand* s'eſt ainſi gouuerné enuers ſes ennemis, comme il a faict enuers le Sieur de la *Noue*, s'il oſe auec vn cœur ſi bas affecter le nom de ce braue Prince? Si *George Caſtriot* vrayement Grand Capitaine & nommé *Scanderberch*, qui ſignifie *Alexandre le Grand*, a eſté tel enuers ſes ennimis, ores qu'ils fuſſent Turcs? Si *l'Arragonois Gonſalue* qui a vraiement merite le tiltre de Grand Capitaine, a commis actes ſi indignes & d'vn courage ſi raualle? Et s'il croit que le vaillant *Don Iean d'Auſtriche* duquel il ſe mocque, euſt voulu s'abbaiſſer iuſques à vne telle villainie? Tellement quand il n'auroit commiſé aultre laſcheté que ceſt-cy il fait aſſez cognoiſtre à tout le monde, voir à ceulx

considering their braue effects, both the godfather & the godchilde are two neere Sanderkyns. Howbeit I would gladly know of this foolish and proud person, whether Great Alexander euer bare himselfe so toward his enemies as hee hath done towarde the Loꝛde de la Noue, and therefoꝛe whether with so base a minde he dare affect the name of that braue Pꝛince? Whether if George Castriot a valiant Captaine in deede, and surnamed Scanderbech, which signifieth Great Alexander, did so behaue himselfe towarde his enimies, albeit they were Turkes? Whether that Arragonois Gonsalue, who in troth deserued the title of a mighty Captaine, did euer commit action so vnwoꝛthie oꝛ shewing so base a minde? Yea and whether hee thinketh that the valiant don Iohn of Austrich, whome hee scoꝛneth, woulde euer haue stooped to such villanie? So that had he neuer committed other cowardlineſſe than this, yet doth he sufficiently giue all the woꝛlde to wit, yea euen those

those who vnder the shadowes of his casuall prosperities haue for a time beene abused, that there neuer was any mightie Capteine, no not any Captaine that could brooke or admit so vile and base minded counsell, neyther neede I here shewe his ignorance in warlike affaires layde open in his preparatiues at Antwerp, with those his monstrous vessels that could scarse swimme vpon the water, and other his small prouision to crosse ouer into England withall, and with so miserable furniture to passe ouer the bellies of the Hollanders and Zealanders: as also it were needelesse here to speake of his two yeares follye in his assembly of flatte bottoms and his irresolute counsell to remoue them from place to place, to Scluce, to Niewport, to Dunkerke, &c. neither of his faint heart that durst not with fourtie thousande fighting men of two whole yeares preparation, ioyne with a smal troup of Zealanders and Hollanders, but before his face see the English men beate and

qui sous vmbre de ses prosperitez fortuites s'y sont pour vn temps abusez, que iamais ne fust ny grand cappitaine, ny Capitaine, au cœur desquels n'entre iamais si vil & si rabbaisse cõseil. Et n'est de besoing icy de mõstrer son ignorãce au faict de la guerre en ses preparatifs d'Anuers, auec des monstrueux vaisseaux qui ne pourroient pas seulemẽt nauiger sur l'eau, & aultre petit appareil, pour trauerser jusques en Angleterre, & passer auec si miserable equippage par dessus le vẽtre des *Hollandois* & *Zeelandois*? Il ne seroit besoing de parler de sa sottise biẽnalle en son assemblee de *Pleyttes*, & son irresolu conseil de les chãger de place en place, à *l'Escluse*, à *Nieuport*, à *Dunckercke*, ny sõ peu de courage, de n'auoir osé auec quarãte mil hommes de cõbat, appresteż deux ans entiers, venir aux mains auec vne petite trouppe de *Zeelandois* & *Hollandois*, & deuãt ses yeulx veoir vne si orgueilleuse ar-

mée, venue ſur ſon conſeil, eſtre battue & fouettée des *Anglois*, comme qui chaſtieroit des Eſclaues, & veoir diſ-ie, perir tant de Nobleſſe deuant ſes yeux. Et pẽſez Meſſieurs qui liſez cecy, ſi *Alexandre* le Grand, *Iulius Cæſar*, & aultres grãds Capitaines euſſent faict telles & ſi lourdes faultes. Il ne faudroit auſſy mettre en compte ſa beſtiſe en ſes entrepriſes de *Berghes* & *Ter Tolen*. car ce ſeul acte laſche, monſtre aſſez, qu'il eſt indigne d'un tel nom, & que les ſucces qui l'a eu, ne procedent d'aleune vertu qui ſoit en luy, qui n'en a aultre que celle de ſes predeceſſeurs, monſtres de nature. Et de faict, ſi vne fois ceſte fontaine d'or des *Indes*, luy venoit à tarir, lors on verroit à clair, qu'il eſt vrayement l'aſne, qui faiſoit peur aux aultres animaulx, quand il eſtoit veſtu de la peau du Lyon: mais quand ils deſcouurirent ſes longues oreilles, ils le traicterent ſelon ſes

whippe ſo proud an armie, that came thether thorough his counſell, as a man ſhall whippe bondſlaues, I ſay, ſee ſo much nobilitie periſhe before his face: But imagine you, my maſters the readers heereof, whether euer great Alexander, Iulius Cæſar, or any other valiant Captaines would euer haue committed ſuch and ſo great ouer-ſigh.es. In vaine alſo is it here to ſpeake of his beaſtlineſſe in his enterpriſes of Berghen and Ter Tolen, for that his onely cowardly action ſufficiently doth ſhewe him vnworthie ſuch a name, as alſo that his ſundry good ſucceſſes, neuer proceeded of any his rare vertue, who hath no other then had his predeceſſors, the monſters of nature. And indeede if euer his ſpring of Indian golde ſhould drie vppe, we ſhoulde euidently ſee that hee is the verie aſſe, that made the other beaſtes afrayde, when he had gotten on the Lions ſkinne, but when they beheelde his long eares, they entreated him as he deſerued: Such a

one

one (I say) is that man, who promised so great recompence to those that were so foolish as to beleeue him, and who prepared to be crowned King of Englande by the handes of Cardinall Allen. Beeing therefore such a one as this Declaration sheweth, we may sufficiently learne no more to feare him, then his master is to trust him, who one daye if hee can, will shewe him but a bad tricke, in respect of his pretended right to Portingall, according to the consultations of his father and his vncle Cardinall Farnesius: whereof already he sheweth proofe sufficient in his euill entreating of the Spaniards, which also is not the course of a great Captaine.

As for those mutinous and rebellious persons, men destinate vnto all euill misehappe, who made the last commotions in France, wee may in their persons note, as it were in a liuely table the countenance of an Hipocrite

merites: Et c'est vn tel homme qui promettoit tant de recompenses à ceulx qui estoient si fols de le croire, & qui s'appreſtoit pour se faire couronner Roy *d'Angleterre*, par le Cardinal *Allain*. Estant donc tel comme ceste Declaration nous le descouure, il nous apprend assez, que nous ne le deburons craindre, non plus que son maistre ne s'y deburoit fier, cõme à celuy qui lui fera vn iour s'il peult, vn meschant tour, pour ses droicts pretẽdus en *Portugal*, suiuãt les cõsultatiõs faictes par son Pere & son Oncle le Cardinal *Farneſe*, & cõme sia il en dõne assez de preuues par le mauuais traitement qu'il faict aux Espaignols, qui n'est pas encores vn traict de grand capitain.

Quant aux mutins & seditieux, destinez à toute malediction, qui ont faict ces dernieres esmotions en *France*, on peut en leurs personnes remarquer comme en vn vif tableau, la face de l'hypocrite,

qui prend le masque de la Religiõ pour couurir la peste de son ambitiõ. Et cõme iamais vn homme de bien, & qui a la crainte de Dieu au cœur, ne vouldroit faire seruir le nom de Dieu à vn si vil & si infame effect: aussi il appert que sont gens sans Dieu, & sans religion, qui persecutent les enfans de Dieu, pour paruenir à estre Rois des enfans des hõmes, soubs vn fauls nom d'estre successours de *Charles le Grand*, auquel ils n'appartiennent de rien: Et quand ils luy appartiendroient, si est ce qu'il ny auoit rien, mais en estoit vsurpateur sur la race des *Merouees*, vrais Rois & legitimes, desquels sont descendus, en droitte ligne masculine, les rois qui regnent, & ceulx qui ont regné depuis six cents ans, sõme aussy ceulx de *Bourbon*, seuls Princes restants apres le Roy, lequel aussi tiẽt la prescription paisible de six siecles: Et neantmoins contre leur Roy, leur bienfaicteur, sãs estre cõtraincts

which taketh the vizard of religion to couer the plague of his ambition. And as there neuer was good man, in heart possessed of the feare of GOD that would vse Gods name to so vile and infamous an action, so dooth it appeare that they be men voide of God and voide of all religion, yea persecuters of Gods children, to the ende they might compasse to become kinges ouer the children of men, vnder a false title of beeing successors to Charles the Great, to whome they are nothing allyed. But admitte they were of his race, yet had hee nothing, but was an vsurper vppon the race of the Merouees, the true and lawfull kinges, from whome in right masculine line are descended the kinges nowe reigning, and all they which haue reigned these sixe hundred yeares, as also the Bourbons the onely Princes next to the king, who also haue the peaceable prescription of sixe ages: yet haue these men without constraint either of conscience or honour, of life or goods,

presumed

presumed to leauie open warre against their king and benefactor: to raise the Parisiens, a mutinous people, and those who throughout all the troubles of France, haue euer followed the worser part, and all by reason of certaine treaties and secret promises made to the Pope of Rome, the generall and vniuersall tyrant of Christendom, and to some forreine Princes for certaine summes of money which they haue fingered: A matter that could neuer sinke in other than the heart of a traytor.

Such men I say, being men without God or honour, who with all their power could neuer performe any other thing but to set a franticke communaltie in broyle, are not to bee feared, neither are we to doubt of Gods assistance against such peruers persons, who couering their wickednesse with his holy name, doo make open warre against him.

As for the Baron of Aussonville, who besieged Iamets, what is there to be founde in

ny en la conscience, ny en l'honneur, ny en vie, ny en biens, ont osé faire guerre ouuerte, faire soubleuer les *Parisiens*, gens mutins & lesquels aux troubles de *France*, ont tousiours suiuy le meschant parti, & le tout à raisõ de quelques tractez & promesses secretes faictes au Pape de Rome, Tyrã Catholique & vniuersel de la chrestienté, & à quelques Princes estrangiers, pour quelque argẽt qu'ils en ont tiré, ce qui ne peut tumber en ame que de trahistre.

Telles gens doncques ne sont à craindre, gens sans Dieu, sans honneur, & qui auec tant de puissãce, n'ont peu aultre chose executer, que de faire mutiner vne insensee populace. Et ne fault doubter de l'asistance de Dieu contre des hommes si pervers, & qui luy font la guerre ouuertemẽt se couurants neantmoins meschãment de son nom sacré.

Quant au Baron *d'Aussõuille* qui assiege *Iamets*, que peut on veoir en luy, sinon

ce pourceau qui fouloit du groing & des pieds les saincts perles? & se retournoit pour mordre? car ce gros & gras pourceau ayant gousté le dõ celeste, & en ayant faict profession, iusques à auoir accompaigné le vaillant Prince de Conde *Louis*, & mesmes iusques au siege de *Poictiers*, duquel lieu il se retira en Allemaigne, auec le non iamais assez loué Prince *d'Orange*, cõmencea premierement à fouller au pieds l'Euangile par mots de risée: Depuis voiant la sanglante iournée de Saint Barthelemi, & les Seigneurs morts par lesquels il esperoit s'aduancer en *France*, il s'assist au banc des mocqueurs, & cõioignist ses cõseils auec les contempteurs, & finalemẽt non plus cõme vn Apostat simple, mais cõme vn Apostat persecuteur, s'est mis à poursuiure ceulx qu'il cognoist en sa conscience estre plus gens de bien que luy, ce qui aduertist vn chascun de prendre garde à soy, affin que celuy qui est

pun but that he is that hogge that doth with snout and heeles troad downe the holie pearles, and turned againe to bite them. For that great and fatte hogge hauing tasted of the heauenly gift and professed the same, euen so farre foorth as to haue accompanied Lewes Prince of Conde euen to the siege of Poictiers from whence hee departed into Germanie with the euer praise worthie Prince of Orange, beganne first to tread the gospell vnder his feete by testing speeches. Afterwarde, beholding the bloudie feast of Saint Bartholomewe, and seeing those Lords dead by whome he hoped for aduancement in France, hee sate him downe vpon the seate of the scorneful, ioyning his counselles with the contemners. And finally not as a simple Apostata, but as a persecuting Apostata, he beganne to persecute those whome in his conscience he knewe to be honester men then himselfe, whereby euerie one may take warning to looke to himselfe, that hee which standeth, fall

not:

not: for God the iuſt iudge dooth in ſuch contemners puniſh one ſinne by an other, vntill ſuch perſons doo caſt themſelues headlong into the darke pitte, the habitation of Dragons and wilde beaſtes, and fulfilling of all miſerie. All which dooth happen thorough the iuſt iudgement of Almightie God, who leaueth nothing vnpuniſhed.

debout, ne vienne à tũber, car Dieu iuſte iuge puniſt en tels mocqueurs vn peché par vn autre, iuſques à ce que telles gens ſe precipitent en la foſſe obſcure, habitation des Dragons & beſtes ſaluages, accompliſſement de toutes miſeres: Le tout par vn iuſte iugement de Dieu, qui ne laiſſe rien impuni.

FINIS.